

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody comprising a human gamma-1 constant region that inhibits IgE expression.
2. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, which comprises a primate antigen binding portion.
3. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, which is a human gamma-1 monoclonal antibody.
4. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, which comprises a rodent antigen binding portion.
5. The anti-human CD23 antibody of Claim 1, which is a humanized antibody.
6. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, which inhibits IgE expression *in vitro*.
7. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 6, which inhibits IL-4 induced IgE expression by B cells *in vitro*.

8. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, which inhibits IL-4 induced IgE expression *in vivo*.
9. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, having a binding affinity ranging from 0.01 nM to 1000 nM.
10. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 1, having a CD23 binding affinity of at least 5nM.
11. The anti-human CD23 monoclonal antibody of Claim 9, having a CD23 binding affinity of at least 100nM.
12. The anti-human CD23 antibody of Claim 1, wherein the variable domains are derived from 5E8, 6G5 or 2C8.
13. The anti-human CD23 antibody of Claim 1, which is capable of inhibiting the binding of monoclonal anti-human CD23 antibody 5E8 or 6G5 to CD23.
14. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 1.
15. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 2.

16. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 3.

17. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 4.

18. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 5.

19. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 6.

20. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 7.

21. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 8.

22. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 9.

23. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 10.

24. A pharmaceutical composition containing an anti-human CD23 antibody according to Claim 11.

25. The anti-human CD23 antibody of Claim 12, which is capable of inhibiting the binding of monoclonal anti-human CD23 antibody 5E8 to CD23.

26. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 1.

27. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 2.

28. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 3.

29. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 4.

30. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or

prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 5.

31. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 6.

32. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 7.

33. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 8.

34. A method of treating or preventing a disease condition wherein inhibition of IgE is therapeutically or prophylactically beneficial comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody according to Claim 12.

35. The method of Claim 29, wherein the disease condition is an allergic disorder.

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36. The method of Claim 29, wherein the disease condition is an autoimmune disease.

37. The method of Claim 29, wherein the disease condition is an inflammatory disease.

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